



Vermont Emergency Management**Vermont Department of Public Safety**

45 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-1300

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<http://vem.vermont.gov>

July 12, 2019

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street SW

Washington, DC 20554

Re: FCC Rule Waiver Request for Live State of Vermont Blue Alert Test

To whom it may concern,

The Vermont State Police, in collaboration with the Vermont Division of Emergency Management, is seeking approval to conduct a live test of the newly established Vermont Blue Alert System on Friday, August 23, 2019 starting at 1200 hours utilizing the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and the Integrated Public Alert & Warning System (IPAWS).

The recently created Vermont Blue Alert System, which is managed and monitored by the Vermont State Police, was designed to rapidly disseminate information to the public when a law enforcement officer has been seriously injured, killed, or is missing in the line of duty warranting concern for the officer's safety, and the suspect(s) involved have fled the scene and pose an imminent threat to the public or other law enforcement officers. The Vermont Blue Alert System is consistent with the Blue Alert Network, the national communications network established by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to the Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu Blue Alert Act of 2015.

The live test, which will be the inaugural test of Vermont's Blue Alert System, will include the use of VT-Alert [utilizing the Everbridge system], resulting in notifications being made to VT-Alert subscribers via telephone, email and text message. Furthermore, email notifications will be made to all "@vermont.gov" email addresses, Blue Alert test information will be displayed within Vermont's 511 system, all Vermont Agency of Transportation roadside digital message boards will display Blue Alert test information, and the Vermont Department of Liquor and Lottery will have Blue Alert Test information displayed on all lottery terminals and digital lottery tickets dispensed during the test. The Wireless Emergency Alert system will NOT be utilized during the test. All test messaging will lead with the following: "This is a TEST of the Vermont BLUE Alert notification system. This is a TEST of the Vermont BLUE Alert notification system. Only a test."

If approved to conduct a live test, the Vermont State Police and our partner agencies will begin an aggressive Blue Alert public awareness and media campaign, which will include information about the Vermont Blue Alert System and pending test information. Vermont State Police Detective Sergeant Greg Campbell, Co-Deputy Vermont Blue Alert Coordinator, will be onsite both facilitating and monitoring the Blue Alert System test. Det/Sgt. Campbell will conduct a debriefing immediately following the Blue Alert System test to identify deficiencies, as well as areas of concern and improvement. He will subsequently complete an after-action



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report, which will be submitted to the Vermont Blue Alert Coordinator for review and next step recommendations.

If there are specific questions or further information is required, please contact Vermont Emergency Management Operations & Logistics Chief Brett LaRose, at 802-241-5365 or brett.larose@vermont.gov and/or Vermont State Police Detective Sergeant Greg Campbell, Co-Deputy Vermont Blue Alert Coordinator, at 802-872-6114 or Greg.Campbell@vermont.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brett LaRose".

Brett LaRose

Operation/Logistics Chief

brett.larose@vermont.gov

(802) 241-5365 - desk